

Claims 1-19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kimura (U.S. Patent No. 6,102,708) in view of Cohn et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,915,639). However, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-19 are allowable over the cited reference for the reasons set forth below.

The proposed combination of Kimura and Cohn *does not disclose or suggest all of the limitations of the present invention*, as recited by the claims. The present invention, as represented by independent claim 1, provides an electrical connector adapted to receive a mating connector and a temperature sensor on the electrical connector *adapted to detect a temperature of the mating connector*. Similarly, claim 9 recites a temperature sensor associated with the frame *adapted to detect a temperature of the electronic card* and claim 16 recites a *temperature sensor connected to the transition board*.

Cohn discloses a temperature sensor *bonded to an outlet*, and therefore senses the temperature of the outlet, rather than sensing the temperature of a device mated to the outlet. Kimura discloses a card connector for receiving a card. Neither Kimura nor Cohn disclose or suggest the limitation of a temperature sensor on the electrical connector *adapted to detect a temperature of the mating connector*. Rather, combining the Kimura and Cohn references would suggest a temperature sensor bonded to the electrical connector that senses the temperature of the electrical connector, not the temperature of the mating connector.

The present invention, however, senses the temperature of the mating connector, which is more difficult than sensing the temperature of the electrical connector. The mating connector (*e.g.*, an electronic card) may be inserted and removed from an electrical connector, rather than remaining stationary like an electrical connector or like the outlet of Cohn. Measuring the temperature of a removable mating connector, however, provides a challenge not addressed by either Kimura or Cohn.

Claim 4 recites a “*temperature sensor extending into said aperture*.” Neither Kimura nor Cohn disclose or suggest a temperature sensor extending into an aperture. Kimura discloses an aperture, but does not disclose or suggest a temperature sensor extending into the aperture. Further,

combining Kimura and Cohn results in a temperature sensor bonded to the electrical connector, not a temperature sensor extending into the aperture. Therefore, the combination of Kimura and Cohn does not render claim 4 obvious.

Claims 5 and 11 each recite a "*temperature sensor mounted to said tab.*" Again, neither Kimura nor Cohn disclose or suggest a temperature sensor mounted to a tab. Kimura discloses a tab, but does not disclose or suggest a temperature sensor mounted to the tab. Further, as described above, the combination of Cohn and Kimura does not result in a temperature sensor mounted to the tab. As such, the combination of Kimura and Cohn cannot render claim 5 or 11 obvious.

Claims 8, 14, and 18 each recite a "*temperature sensor mounted to said flexible circuit.*" Again, neither Kimura nor Cohn disclose or suggest a temperature sensor mounted to said flexible circuit. Cohn discloses a lead, but does not disclose or suggest a flexible circuit as recited in the claims. As such, the combination of Kimura and Cohn cannot render claims 8, 14, or 18 obvious.

Therefore, the combined references of Kimura and Cohn do not disclose or suggest the limitations of independent Claims 1, 9, or 16, or any depending claims including Claims 2-8, 10-15, and 16-19. Thus, Claims 1-19 are patentable over the art of record for the reasons set forth above and Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-19 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

CONCLUSION

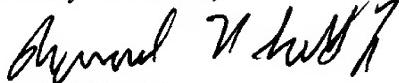
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application and an early Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested. In the event that the Examiner cannot allow the present application for any reason, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney, Raymond N. Scott Jr. at (215) 564-8951, to discuss resolution of any remaining issues.

Attached hereto is a marked-up copy of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made".

PATENT

Docket No. C2405/BERG-2582

Respectfully submitted,


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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

Claims 1 and 9 have been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) An electrical connector system, comprising:
an electrical connector adapted to receive a mating connector; and
a temperature sensor on said electrical connector [for detecting] adapted to detect a
temperature of the mating connector.

9. (Amended) An electrical connector for an electronic card, comprising:
a header;
a frame associated with said header to guide the electronic card into engagement with
said header; and
a temperature sensor associated with said frame adapted to detect a temperature of the
electronic card.